

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

The original house is 2 ½ stories high with gable end to the street. The exterior of the house is covered with a variety of shingle types and patterns creating a very ornamental effect. The entrance is located behind a series of arched openings which create a recessed porch. The rear addition is also shingled and is designed and sited to complement but not overpower the main house.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

This house was built in 1886 for Dana Pearson at a cost of \$4500. Mr. Pearson was the principal member of the firm D. Pearson & Co., "lumber dealers, box makers, planing and moulding mill", which was located on Pleasant St. In 1911 a three-story rear addition was made at a cost of \$18,000. The directory continues to list Mr. Pearson at this address, at least until 1930, but the property was also used for a student boarding house. Presently this is a dormitory of Smith College.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1873, 1884, 1895 and 1915 Atlases.

Northampton Directory: 1885-86, 1895-96, 1900, 1905, 1915, 1922, and 1930.
Springfield Daily Republican Jan. 1, 1887 and Jan. 1, 1912.

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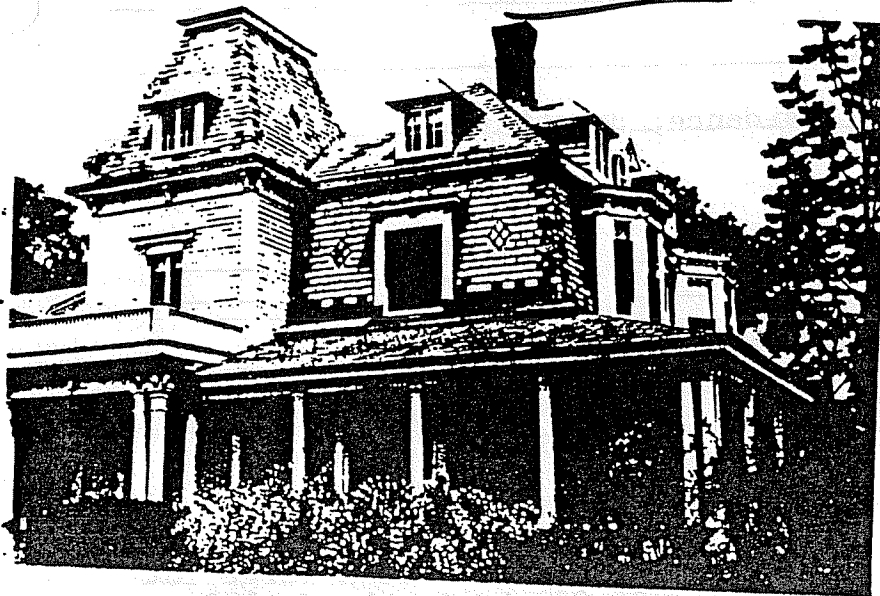
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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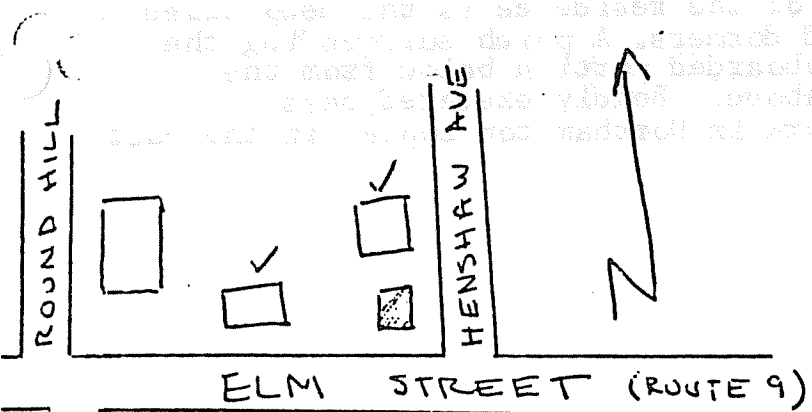
In Area no.	Form no.
	31B-199

5791C - Electric



Northampton
 Address 105 Elm Street
Pierson House
 Present use Residence
 Present owner Trustees of Smith College
 Construction: 1872
 Source Gazette, 4/22/1872, 9/2/1873
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4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Architect unknown
 Exterior wall fabric wood
 Outbuildings (describe) none
 Other features tower with mansard; patterned tiled roofs; bays and dormers; prominent chimneys
 Altered additions Date _____
 Moved no Date _____

5. Lot size:
 Less than one acre x Over one acre _____
 Approximate frontage 90 feet
 Approximate distance of building from street 30 feet

6. Recorded by C. Dible
 Organization Northampton Historical Commission
 Date May 26 1976

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
 USGS Quadrant _____
 MHC Photo no. _____

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(over)

7. Original owner (if known) E. Pierson (Pearson)

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates residence; dormitory

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|----------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| Aboriginal | _____ | Conservation | _____ | Recreation | _____ |
| Agricultural | _____ | Education | _____ | Religion | _____ |
| Architectural | <u>x</u> | Exploration/
settlement | _____ | Science/
invention | _____ |
| The Arts | _____ | Industry | _____ | Social/
Humanitarian | _____ |
| Commerce | _____ | Military | _____ | Transportation | _____ |
| Communication | _____ | Political | _____ | | |
| Community development | _____ | | | | |

9. Historical Significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

E. Pierson, "of Exeter New Hampshire", purchased a large lot at the corner of Elm and Henshaw for \$5,000 in April of 1872. In September of the following year a notice of Pierson's death described him as "the builder of the cottage at Elm and Henshaw." The early 1870's was the period when the mansard roof was considered "modern" and stylish.

The most prominent feature of the residence is the deep tiled mansard interrupted by hooded dormers. A porch surrounding the lower story separates the clapboarded portion below from the more elaborate roof surfaces above. Boldly executed bays characteristic of Victorian work in Northampton appear in the east facade.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.) Registry of Deeds, 292.375; Hampshire Gazette, 9/2/73